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r/MtF • 2mo ago
JessicaPink703 Legal Researcher

New Option for Trans Passport Holders: Digital IDs Now Live on Apple Devices

Good News

Time for a bit of good news in the dark times, and something I want every transgender and non-binary person with a Passport to know is an option. People can now digitally add their Passports (both Books and Cards) to their iPhones and Apple Watches as a form of Digital ID.

This will allow you to use it for domestic air travel at over 250 airports, plus at select businesses and organizations to verify your age or identity in person, apps, and online. I expect the numbers of entities that utilize this to significantly expand as time goes on. **Android also supports this feature, as linked below.**

It is now more important than ever after *Orr v. Trump*'s preliminary injunction fell for those with Passports to protect their documents from risk of being lost or stolen at all costs where possible. This hopefully will make this task that much easier with **not having to carry your physical document** on your person as much, whether you are a pre-Trump 2.0 or *Orr* passport holder. Smiling at all the people who will be able to take advantage of this from my work in the case while the injunction was in effect! :D

For those who want to learn more, you can do so here: iPhone: https://support.apple.com/en-us/123719 Android: https://support.google.com/wallet/answer/15284332?hl=en

Continuing to look out for all of you, Jessica J. <3

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valasandra • 2mo ago

Wow, thank you! I had no idea this feature was available.

JessicaPink703 OP • 2mo ago
Legal Researcher

That's why I posted it, that and I'm a huge tech geek! 😜

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THANKS!
Thanks to u/S our banner!
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AnnetteBishop • 2mo ago

Thank you! On the 250 airport figure, does that imply the airport needs to have a certain type of scanner or does that just align with major airports with TSA, etc?

JessicaPink703 OP • 2mo ago
Legal Researcher

The specific TSA checkpoints need to have the specific scanner to verify Digital IDs, most of the major airport hubs in the country have it. My understanding is that they are gradually bringing this online nationwide.

Calling your local airport to verify they are on the list ahead of time isn't a bad idea.

AnnetteBishop • 2mo ago

Makes sense, thank you!

translunainjection • 2mo ago
Trans Bisexual

Thanks for letting us know!

Can you explain specifically how the Digital ID protects trans peoples' documents? How would it stay valid if the state department decided to revoke Orr passports?

JessicaPink703 OP • 2mo ago • Edited 2mo ago
Legal Researcher

I'll break your questions into the two parts:

1. By not having to carry your physical Passport on you for day to day use, you don't run the risk of having it lost or stolen. You can keep it at home secure, such as in a safe. Plus, convenience factor.
2. It wouldn't, plain and simple. But, as I've said on my previous post, I do not anticipate that happening at least any time soon and probably not at all. Especially not until litigation is wrapped and they in their own words 'prevail in this case', as the government said in its briefs when they made that threat. The logistics, funding, and legal challenges of revoking and re-issuing Passports en masse are ridiculous even then with how long the injunction lasted. Including the chance for everyone individually facing that to have their appeals processed first before revocation is complete.

translunainjection • 2mo ago
Trans Bisexual

Thanks for helping us think this through!

Are there enough scanners for the app to work as a substitute for day to day use? In the US, at least, I think most people use driver's licenses for day-to-day. (I have a passport, real ID, and regular driver's license, and I bring the least valuable one I can made due with!)

What about for American travelers? Could you get in deep trouble if you miscalculated just one of the airports/places where you'd need a passport doesn't accept the scanner? I'd be terrified of being stranded abroad and having to ask a transphobic consulate for help sounds awful.

What about expats? Can they leave the passport at their overseas home and rely on the app for day to day?

CompetitiveJunket904 • 2mo ago

Granted there are 500 commercial airports for scheduled flights in the US alone, and 250 have this tech, that means it is a 50-50 shot. But for domestic flights it is better to just use your state IDs.

Though it is important to mention that due to regulations that have gone into effect as of May 2025, you MUST have a REAL ID verified identification card from your local DMV to

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May 2025, you MUST have a REAL ID verified identification card from your local DMV to get on a plane bound for a domestic location. These are your regular IDs nowadays.

As for whether you get in trouble. No you don't get in trouble on domestic flights as long as you keep your Real ID on hand. But for International travelers, the book will be required at customs when you reach your destinations. The Passport card can be used to travel between the US and Canada, Mexico and a few other countries in North America, but the actual book is required if you tend to go on a flight outside the card's capability, but especially required for those seeking asylum. The physical book and card must be on hand when you enter the country you wish to go to, as your digital version is only usable at the US airports for domestic flights if you should wish to use it.

Which brings me to the Expats, who include students, business people and digital nomads. If you intend on revoking citizenship you will need to hand over your passport book and card to the authorities of the country you are staying at when it is time to do so for the purpose of expatriation and becoming a naturalized citizen of the country of choice, meaning you will require a passport from the country you reside to step foot in the US again just to visit a relative, tend to a business trip, or have some time sipping drinks along the beaches of Hawaii.

Though asylum is a whole different matter of expat, if you seek asylum you will be required to hand over your passport card and book upon speaking with the people who will handle your case. Though understand that the moment you begin your asylum claim you can never return to the US, closing off not just the ability to return, but also the ability to tie up loose ends with friends and loved ones, and even the need to say goodbye to any dreams you may have had that would be necessary to do while in the US unless you have the ability to do it still in your new country of residency or Virtually. Every country is different in its process, hence why I am being seriously generalized here but 6 ways to Sunday asylum will require handing your passport over and never returning with the understanding that returning will revoke your asylum status and thus force your return to the US, never able to return to the country you went to for that asylum even for a visit to a friend or relative.

In the event of Expat or Asylum, you would have to delete the passport from your phone as well to be entitles to citizenship and you must both disclose it to those handling the case delete it in front of them to ensure you will not be able to use them again.

If you are a dual citizen however, you have the ability to revoke your US citizenship at any time, but I would suggest holding onto the passport until you have enough information to make a sound decision on revoking your citizenship in case things change in the future. That can be for many reasons such as finances or safety, or even something else. Just be sure to understand that if you let go of your citizenship you will likely have to re-enter the same way as everyone else, but I don't know how different the system is for those who were prior citizens. Whoever has an answer to that matter don't hesitate to answer as it would be a rather fascinating topic of discussion.

I have looked into a lot of this extensively over the last year because of the situation at hand overall, not just the digital passport matter, so I can understand the long read, but I like being thorough.

I hope this helps.

Natural-Constant9097 • 2mo ago

Ok so this has been bugging me for awhile and I haven't been able to get a straight answer: what happens if you are a resident (but not citizen) of another country and the US revokes your passport? Presumably you are stuck in the country but is that the only ramification? Can they cut off bank accounts in the US - similar to what they can do if you are delinquent in taxes?

Yes off topic but you seem like you've done a fair amount of research.

mvaaam • 2mo ago

Yeah, doesn’t really help too much as an American not living in America

u/duckduckgo • Promoted

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WVjF2mX5VEmoYqsKL4s8 • 2mo ago

I've set it up in Google Wallet on my Android phone.

JessicaPink703 OP • 2mo ago
Legal Researcher

Yes, so happy for you! :D

repofsnails • 2mo ago

Ughhhi thought this would help me BCS I lost my passport I was like maybe I could use the pic I took of it but nope sadly

JessicaPink703 OP • 2mo ago
Legal Researcher

I specifically made this post and publicized this because of your comment on my previous post about losing your Passport on the train. I do not want this happening to anyone, ever again. Let it be comfort to you that your experience wasn't in vein and helped others. ❤️

repofsnails • 2mo ago

I'm glad!!

rokkitmaam • 2mo ago

Device region must be set to US, for those of us abroad it may not work. I'll test and report back.

JessicaPink703 OP • 2mo ago
Legal Researcher

This is only designed for domestic use within the United States at this time.

u/dsoomro • Promoted

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christinasasa • 2mo ago
Trans Woman 🍉🦋

You can do it on Android wallet too but you'd better bring the physical passport with you to the airport.

Historical_Fee1354 • 2mo ago

I have a Google pixel can I still do it

JessicaPink703 OP • 2mo ago
Legal Researcher

Should be able to, follow the link mentioning how to do this with Google Wallet! ❤️

CompetitiveJunket904 • 2mo ago

I just don't feel it a safe option to do until I really have to use my passport. I lock mine in a safe for security, and if I truly need to fly I may hold a digital copy, but no one should ever fly outside the country without their physical version. These are not meant to replace the physical versions.

Remember, physical always covers the digital errors.

JessicaPink703 OP • 2mo ago
Legal Researcher

That's not correct, you cannot use a digital ID for international travel. That's why I only mentioned domestic air travel in the post.

CompetitiveJunket904 • 2mo ago

My point still stands. What I am saying is that I have no wish to be tracked. And physical passports must be on hand regardless the flight type in the event they should require it for whatever reason. Say the system is offline or your airport doesn't support it, maybe an error. The digital is a convenience, but never a replacement. Yes call ahead, but never go to the airport without it so in the event something happens. Luckily with Real-ID these days, you should be able to get on domestic flights with just that, as it was made for this purpose. As the passport was only possible after a Real-ID was created for more recent individuals to finish the process of updating their documents such as myself, I could use that instead of a digital passport for domestic flights. There is no reason to have digital passports if you intend to use a passport for a single flight in the ten year span.

For me, it may seem like a convenience, but it is more so a contrivance of big tech to track us regardless of the "privacy and data assurances"

I am just not sold on it, end of story.

CompetitiveJunket904 • 2mo ago

And I would also mention to the OP you proved my point as well from your comment to me, as I never insinuated that you could use a digital ID for that kind of travel.